

## ETCHING METAL SILICIDES AND GERMANIDES

### Abstract of the Disclosure

A metal silicide may be selectively etched by converting the metal silicide to a metal silicate. This may be done using oxidation. The metal silicate may then  
5 be removed, for example, by wet etching. A non-destructive low pH wet etchant may be utilized, in some embodiments, with high selectivity by dissolution.